# SOUTH VIET NAM
## In Struggle

SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION INFORMATION COMMISSION

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and other South Viet Nam NFL
Missions in foreign countries



2 - JUN 2
Copy ..... 1970

The South Vietnamese have been raising patriotism and revolutionary heroism of March Nineteenth to high degree and have put up a stubborn and successful struggle against the US imperialism

"The resistance war against US aggression may drag out. Our compatriots may have to undergo new sacrifices in term of property and human lives. In any cases we must be resolved to fight against US aggressors to total victory.

"Our rivers, our mountains, our men will always remain.

The Yanks defeated, we will build our country ten times more beautiful."

No matter what difficulties and hardships may lie ahead, our people are sure to win total victory. The US imperialists will have to pull out. Our Fatherland will be reunified. Our compatriots in the North and in the South will be re-united under the same roof. Our country will have the signal honour of being a small nation which, through a heroic struggle, have defeated two big imperialisms — the French and the American — and made a worthy contribution to the national liberation movement."

(Will of President
HO CHI MINH)

# Role of CBW in counter-insurgency

(Continued from the precedent issue and ended)

...THE United States has begun supplying the South Viet Nam Army with two standard gases to check mutinies — CN and CS — in 1962, in furtherance of the Military Assistance Program (MAP). A third substance, the DM, was given to the South Viet Nam puppets in 1964. The South Viet Nam administration use these gases to disperse the demonstrations of Saigon Buddhists in November 1964, and a month later, the South Vietnamese began using the CN, CS and DM (under US supervision) in military operations against the NLF. First mention of their use was made in the missions carried out on December 23 in Long Xuyen province, on December 25 in Tay Ninh province, and on January 24, 1965 in Phu Yen province (6).

The Defence Department give the meaning of three chemical weapons : deadly agents, paralysing agents and agents to check mutinies. The latter include those agents which produce " irritable effects and provoke a momentary incapacity when they enter in contact with the eyes or when they are breathed in (7)". After the US Army Field Manual FM 3-10 Employment of Chemical and Biological Munitions,

The substances to check mutinies which are used in the open air do not provoke permanent disturbances for man. When they are used in closed doors for a long time or at high doses, they can deprive man of action for several hours and cause serious physiological reactions (8).

As a matter of fact, these substances are dusts which are sprayed by means of aerosol grenades or vaporizers.

The CN (or chloroacetrophene) is the standard tear gas used by national police organs to curb civilian demonstrations, it has been widely used in the United States to disperse the crowds during the uprisings in the ghettos, the protests for civic rights and the demonstrations against the Viet Nam war. After the army, " this substance rapidly irritates the upper respiratory tracts and the eyes, causing an afflux of tears among those without masks after an exposure of a few seconds. At high doses, " the CN irritates the skin and can provoke burns, a feeling of itching. Some have nausea at first exposure (9) ".

The CS (or O-chlorobenzalmalononitrile) is a stronger tear gas. It is considered by the army as the most efficient substance in operations against mutinies. " This substance instantly irritates the eyes, the nose and the larynx... Its effects on the eyes and the respiratory system subsist for five to ten minutes after exposure to fresh air. Meanwhile the victim is wholly unable to carry out any efficient action (10) ". The CS produces such effects as difficulty in breathing, nausea, cough, burns in the eyes and on the skin. Though it was not identified, the CS is probably this " most efficient tear gas " which, as the reports said, was used to curb the demonstrations in the summer of 1968.

The DM or adamsite (chemical name : diphenylaminochloroarsine) is the strongest substance to check mutinies. In truth, it is not a tear gas, but rather a vomitive which contains arsenic. After the « US Army Manual TM 3-215 " this substance causes " an irritation of the eyes and mucous membranes, makes the nose run like an influenza provokes sneezing, cough, a violent headache, a strong pain in the chest, difficulty in breathing, nausea and vomiting (11) ". After the Manual FM 3-10, " the physiological reaction to the DM is strong enough to immobilize man for several hours after exposure (12) ". As it requires a few minutes for the DM to produce its maximum effect, it is usually mixed with CN grenades to obtain an immediate immobilization

The meaning of DM as an element to check mutinies is wholly arbitrary. The US Army Manual FM 3-10 gives the following warning.

**The use of DM to disperse the crowds in the mutinies is unadvisable in any operation where a possibility of death cases is not contemplated.**

**Excessive and probably lethal doses or completely paralysing doses may be launched. On the contrary, it can be used in military or paramilitary operations, in operations of counter-insurgency, limited or generalized war, in which the control of Key-personnel by means of paralysing effects is desirable and the possibility of death cases is acceptable (13).**

In fact, everybody knows that the DM is lethal for 50 per cent of those exposed when it is used in concentrations of 30 mg per cubic metre of air (14).

The degree of deadly effects by DM increases with the exposure. The figures given are related to adults in good health. For the children, the old folks, the weakened, a smaller dose is lethal. As this substance is used in Viet Nam first to clear the tunnels and refuges where " Viet Cong are suspected to take shelter " (most often they are old folks and children kept out of fighting) and as high concentrations of this gas easily occur in unaerated tunnels, it is evident that we use there a very strong and dangerous weapon against the Vietnamese population. Some death cases — children in particular — have been ascribed to this substance (15) and one may doubt that small concentrations constitute a danger ot systematic poisoning by arsenic, after repeated contacts with the gas (16).

After using these chemical substances in Viet Nam, the Johnson administration has suspended their use in the 1964-65 winter because of the opposition of public opinion. After an intense publicity campaign to present them as " humanitary " substitutes for conventional weapons, the US command has again used them widely at the end of 1965 (17). The army press communiques had declared that tear gases were used to recover women and children who had been captured by the Viet Cong to be used as " human shields " but the truth is wholly different. The most important use of chemical substances in Viet Nam, as mentioned above, is to clean the tunnels and refuges. The immediate effects of these actions can be not deadly, but death will surely come. Since 1966, CW substances have been used to remove people from their refuges in prevision of B-52 bombings. It was on February 21, 1966 that one had the first information on the use of this tactic, when the helicopters dropped hundreds of gas grenades on a small area of forest, 265 miles northeast of Saigon. Then the B-52s came and saturated the area with anti-personnel fragmentation bombs. At least 400 people, according to official estimates, were affected. In its account the New York Times had explained that former B-52 bombings had been inefficient against people sheltered in underground hide-outs. " The aim of the gas attack ", said the Time, " was to compel the Viet Cong to go on the surface and expose themselves to the bombs. "

Chemical substances have also been used against NFL posts before the " mission of research and destruction ". On May 8, 1966 US planes dropped twelve tons of CS in a fringe of forest along the Cambodian border " to open the way ", said UPI. " to a ground force of 1,500 wearing masks ". A year later, in August 1967, the Pentagon admitted that the DM was regularly used in these operations.

Viet Nam and US functionaries have revealed that the substances used to check mutinies, in the clearing of tunnels are not always efficient to flush enemy soldiers, in particular when the tunnels are big or have lateral passages and camouflaged openings that dissipate the gases. Hence a strong pression in some Pentagon circles for the use of other chemical weapons more efficient. The substance likely to be used in case of escalation is the BZ, officially known as the " immobilizing substance". Its chemical formula is kept secret but it is supposed to be a gaz which attacks the nerves moderately, or a psycho-chemical product or a combination of both the US Army Manual FM 3-10 gives the only indication that the BZ " is used like a paralysing aerosol with slow action and momentary effect. The BZ enters the body through the respiratory tracts and hampers the functioning of mental mechanisms which control the functions of the body. Normally, the recovery is complete (18)". The US Army Manual for Training in view of CBW, the TM 3-215 indicates that among the effects of the BZ one can mention "the decrease of mental and physical activity, headaches, vertigo, a loss of the orientation, hallucinations, somnolence, a lunatic behaviour (sometimes), an increase of the temperature (19)". Some symptoms are comparable to those produced by the d-acid lysergic diethylamid (LSD-25) and other hallucinogen drugs. The military advantage of this substance is evident : no soldier is able to efficiently resist an attack while under the influence of the LSD or of any drug of the like. As one knows that the Pentagon has patronized the researches on the military uses of hallucinogens and other psycho-chemical products (20), it is logical to suggest that the BZ contains such substances.

The BZ is generally delivered in small bombs which can be dropped in groups (inside a big M43 bomb of 758 pounds) or one after another (by means of a bomb-launcher SUU-13/A) (21). Although the Pentagon insists on the fact that these weapons have never been used in Viet Nam, even as a test, a Western correspondent has given information on their use there : Pierre Darcourt has declared in L'Express that 3,000 grenades containing BZ have been used by the First Cavalry (Airmobile) during the second week of March 1966, in an attack against the NFL posts at Bong Son (22).

After Lieutenant General J.H. Rothshild, ex-commander of the Army Chemical Corps, "it needs little imagination and knowledge of toxic substances to find numerous and valuable possibilities of applications of these weapons (in anti-guerilla operations) (23). General Rothschild enumerates some applications : CB attacks of guerilla posts, war against the stock-breeding of the guerillas, war against crops. Some of these technics have been applied in Viet Nam : attacks with paralysing chemical products (mentioned above) and war against crops, and everything leads to think that the Pentagon will escalate its CBW against the Vietnamese people as soon as it receives the authorization of the new president.

**ROGER COUNTILL**

(6) *Hersh, Chemical and Biological Warfare, Indianapalis and New York: Bobbs and Merrill 1968, p. 168.*

(7) *FM 3-10, p. 6.*

(8) *Ibid.*

(9) *Ibid.*

(10) *Ibid.*

(11) *US Army Manual for Training TM 3-125. Military Chemistry and Chemical Agents, quoted in CBW by Hersh, p. 61*

(12) *FM 3-10, p. 6.*

(13) *Ibid.*

(14) *Figures quoted by Brightman, op. Cit, p.37. and CBW by Hersh, pp. 61-62.*

(15) *After Dr Alje Vennema, a Canadian physician who was in Viet Nam, whose testimony is published in CBW by Hersh, pp. 183-184.*

(16) *After the Special Publication of the Army Chemical Center No. 2-31 published in 1960. The important passage quoted in CBW by Hersh, pp. 184-185 says : The adamsite contains arsenic and there exists a possibility, although remote, of systematic poisoning by arsenic.*

(17) *See Ordnance of November – December 1966, pp.272-276. Gas and a Just War, by Lieutenant Colonel Stanley D. Fair. For a complete chronology of the use of CW agents in Viet Nam, see CBW by Hersh, pp. 167-180.*

(18) *FM 3-10, p.6*

(19) *TM 3-215 ; quoted by Langer, op cit., p.300*

(20) *See Michael Klare, CBW Research Directory, Viet Report (January 1968).*

(21) *FM 3-10, pp. 16-17*

(22 *Pierre Darcourt, Le temps des massacres, l'Express, March 14-20, 1966.*

(23) *J.H. Rothschild, To morrow's Weapons Chemical and Biological, New York, Mc Graw - Hill, 1964, P. 143.*

# So Long As US Troops Remain in South Viet Nam, There Will Be other SON MYs

*(Communique issued on March 12, 1970 of the Committee for Denunciation of the US imperialists and their henchmen's war crimes in South Viet Nam)*

OVER the last months, people throughout the world have come to know the truth about the Son My affair. An universal wave of indignation has been triggered at the US barbarous crime, and public opinion has stressed that Son My is not an isolated case.

However, flouting public denunciation and condemnation in the United States and the world, over the last months, on Washington orders, the US-puppet-satellite troops are continuously perpetrating new savage massacres in South Viet Nam.

— At Go Su, Quang Ngai province, they slew 300 people in a concentration camp (October 1969).

— In Quang Nam, during operation "Sea Tiger" against Thang Binh, Que Son and Duy Xuyen districts (November 1969), they killed over 800 people.

— In Binh Dinh, they murdered 50 people in Vinh Quang hamlet, Phuoc Son village during a raid on February 5, 1970.

— In Kien Tuong, during a nine-day raid (from February 3 to 14, 1970) they mowed down 300 people and marched away many others.

— In Kien Phong, since the beginning of this year they have repeatedly sprayed toxic chemicals and launched raids upon raids in many areas. Within two days (January 15 and 21, 1970) in An Long, zone 4, Thanh Binh district, they inflicted 36 civilian casualties.

—In Ca Mau, since October 1969, time and again they sprayed toxic chemicals on Khanh Lam village, affecting thousands of people. They also repeatedly raided and bombed many localities, 34 times with B-52s, killing and wounding nearly 300 people.

—In Chau Doc, since January 26, 1970, they have many times dumped toxic chemicals on, and bombed, Bay Nui area with B-52s, hitting thousands of people and razing many villages in South Viet Nam.

—In Darlac, since the beginning of this year they have thrice raided Ayung hamlet, murdering people, burning houses, destroying crops, looting poultry food, bush knives, clothes, and completely levelling this locality.

These are only a few typical cases: John Paul Vann, US civil adviser in the Mekong delta, himself admitted that in 1969, 100,000 civilians were poisoned and 23,000 hospitalized (BBC, February 18, 1970).

The realities show that since Nixon's advent to power, US troops and their henchmen in South Viet Nam have committed more and more crimes in a more systematic way.

On the White House and Pentagon orders, the American aggressors and their henchmen have resorted to extremely atrocious war means to blot out vast areas.

They have levelled over 300 villages out of the 316 in Go Linh and Cam Lo districts, Quang Tri province.

They have obliterated about 300 villages out of 487 north of Quang Nam province.

In a series of raids against Hai Lang, Trieu Phong districts (Quang Trijand Phong Dien, Quang Dien (Thua Thien), they have completely flattened 180 hamlets.

— In Cu Chi district (northwest of Saigon) with 18 villages and 60,000 people, they have mounted many raids, dropped thousands of bombs and fired millions of shells, turning a fertile area into wasteland.

Go Noi area (In Quang Nam) more than 40 squares kilometres wide has been levelled to the ground.

The populated banks of Tra Khuc river in Quang Ngai and of Vam Co Dong river in Long An several hundreds of kilometres long have been devastated.

All these crimes spell out that the Nixon administration is warlike and cruel, and that so long as US troops remain in South Viet Nam, there will be other Son Mys.

The Committee for Denunciation of the US imperialists and their Henchmen's War Crimes strongly denounces to public opinion in the country and abroad the Nixon Administration's intensification of its criminal aggressive war and perpetration of new savage massacres against the South Viet Nam people.

We earnestly call on the Governments and people of all countries, international and national organisations, peace and justice-loving people to raise their voices and demand that the US imperialists end the war, stop committing more crimes in South Viet Nam, rapidly and unconditionally withdraw all US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam to let the South Viet Nam people settle their internal affairs.

For their national survival the South Viet Nam people are determined to unite millions as one man, push ahead their struggle, completely defeat the American aggressors, punish the criminals, and wrest back independence and freedom for their Fatherland.

# Atrocities cannot make up for heavy losses

*Two years ago, on March 16, 1968, US troops committed the horrible Son My massacre. Over 500 people including new-born babies and old people, were murdered. Fields and orchards were devastated, and houses reduced to ashes.*

*This has blotted US image with an indelible smear. Everywhere in the world, even in the United States, indignant protests have been raised against Nixon the executioner.*

*Under fire, the latter has tried to justify himself, by saying that the massacre was committed by "a few US servicemen who went beserk." (1) But blood cannot be washed from the hands of the killers. What happened at Son My has been happening on many other places in South Viet Nam.*

*Since their arrival here, the US aggressors have perpetrated many mass killings not less bloody: the murder of over 200 people in Tay Ninh on January 18, 1968; the slaughter of 700 civilians of Phong Dien district, Thua Thien province, On January 31 the same year; the slaying of 300 civilians in Cam Lo district, Quang Tri province, on February 26, 1968 etc.*

*Similar carnages have taken place since the Son My case, in Chau Doc and Vinh Khanh (An Giang), Ba Lang An (Quang Ngai), Kong H'Ring (Kontum), Thang Binh and Que Son (Quang Nam), Khanh Lam (Ca Mau), and so on.*

*By mass killing people with gun fire, carpet bombings and toxic chemicals, the Nixon administration obviously is pursuing its policy of terror in the hope of cowing the South Vietnamese people. The atrocities committed in Son My and other parts of South Viet Nam are part of US aggression and have been condemned by the whole world.*

*All these point to the fact that through the so-called "Vietnamization," the US imperialists are actually carrying on their war of aggression to conquer South Viet Nam and turn it into their military base and a colony of a new type.*

*By doing so the US aggressors and the Saigon puppet administration hope to quench the patriotic movement here and stave off their imminent defeat. There is no greater error. Nixon and Co must have known that the criminals at Oradour and Lidice all received very severe punishment. In brazenly challenging the basic national rights of the South Vietnamese people, the US imperialists are only betraying their weakness. A mortally wounded beast would do the same.*

*The progressive public in the world has come out strongly against the loathsome crimes of the US imperialists, and the South Vietnamese people and their armed forces are dealing still more stunning blows at the aggressor.*

*We strongly condemn the US imperialists' bestial acts, and insist that they stop at once their terror.*

*We appeal to the world's peoples to take drastic measures to stay the bloody hands of the US imperialists.*

*We are deeply grateful to our friends all over the world for their active sympathy with, and efficacious support for our struggle against the US aggressors and their lackeys.*

*We are convinced that our just cause, with the backing and sympathy from the peoples all over the world, will triumph in the end.*

*Demonstration in enemy-temporarily occupied zones to condemn the Son My mass slaying*

# Price rocketing in South Viet Nam urban centres

**Famine is rife in many towns and enemy-controlled areas in South Viet Nam, even when the harvest is in full swing, say local reports. It is also disclosed that in many villages and districts in Thua Thien province, the inhabitants have to queue up in the rain or wind to buy each a litre of rice with which to mix with potatoes and cook gruel for the whole family. In some localities, they live on broken rice and bran. In Quang Dien district, ten thousand concentration camp inmates do not have enough rice to eat.**

**Owing to the shortage of this staple food, prices of commodities are sky rocketing. In Saigon, the increase in the price of locally of middle quality rice fluctuates between 1,000 and 1,500 piastres, and from 7,500 piastres a 100 kg of quality rice fetches 9,500 piastres; the prices of sugar, milk, meat, fish also are spiralling. Remarkably enough the Thieu-Ky-Khiem puppet administration has also raised the price of 100 kg of US-imported rice by 300 piastres, of a bottle of Larue beer to 35.5 piastres (container excluded) and of package of MIC or Bastos cigarettes from 9 to 11 piastres, thus making things harder for the townsfolk.**

**Together with famine, social evils are rampant. According to press reports, in Saigon at least 15 cases of robbery occur every day, some of them by puppet troops or policemen.**

**Cases of suicide because of poverty are on the upgrade. In Saigon, on February 12, 1970 alone, 12 men and women took their own lives.**

# Thieu brings to trial two Saigon "deputies"

*ON February 25, the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique brought two "deputies" who didn't see eye to eye with them to trial before the Saigon military court. These men, Tran Ngoc Châu and Hoang Ho, were charged with "Communist sympathy", but US Senator W. Fulbright has said that the real reason for the trial was not because Châu had any contact with the "Communists" but because he had shown ever stronger opposition to Thieu and his attempts to pressure and wreck the Saigon "National Assembly".*

*To bring the two deputies to trial, the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique had cajoled and threatened the Saigon "National Assembly" into withdrawing their parliamentary immunity, and had tried to force Châu to appear before court. Having failed in this attempt, they had to try Châu and Ho in their absence and sentence Ho to capital punishment and Châu to 20 years' imprisonment. Then they sent police to arrest Châu who had taken refuge in the "National Assembly" building, beat him up and take him into custody. In face of strong protests from Châu and his fellow-"deputies" they were forced to try Châu a second time. On March 5, they sentenced him to 10 years' hard labour.*

*The trial exposed the ever more acute contradictions within the ranks of the agents of the American, imperialists in Saigon. It was a fascist act aimed at repressing the opposition and shoring up the shaky position of the puppets in power.*

*The trial of the two "deputies" and the ransacking of the "National Assembly" together with the insults heaped on the "deputies" in both the Upper and Lower Houses of "Parliament" have laid bare the fascist and dictatorial character of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem regime and at the same time the puppet and rotten character of the Saigon "National Assembly". As said the Washington Post (March 5), the trial betrayed the hand of the American imperialist masters of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique, who will no doubt resort to even more fascist measures against anyone who don't agree with them.*

## *In Our Liberated Zone*

*In a laboratory*

# BUMPER CROP IN CA MAU

PEASANTS in Ca Mau province have brought in the most abundant rice crop in history, with average output topping that of last year by 30 per cent. Per-hectare output in Chau Thanh, Gia Rai and Song Doc districts, for example, used to vary between 3 and 4 tons. Now it ranges from 5 to 6 tons.

This has been obtained at the cost of many sacrifices by peasants, who successfully withstood all enemy attacks. When the harvest just began, Gia Rai district was target to a "pacification" operation, lasting several months. In the U Minh jungle area the replanting of rice-seedlings began with frenzied enemy ground and air raids. Meanwhile, great damage was done to the means of production, including cattle which supply the main haulage power.

The people, however, were determined to thwart the enemy. Led by the Peasants' Association and People's Revolutionary Committee at all levels, organized work teams developed fast. Many a difficulty was thus overcome, and enlightening experiences were gleaned from the everyday fighting and production.

Beside the all-time high output, the acreage has been expanded by 4,500 hectares.

These successes in production, coupled with the recent military exploits in the U Minh jungle area, have filled the peasantry with a new resolve to contribute much more to the front and prepare for a still better crop next year.

While people in the towns and enemy-held areas in South Viet Nam are placed in a strait by the "austerity" taxes and increase in the prices of rice, electricity and beer, the Thieu-Ky-Khiem triumvirate raised by 100 per cent the price of newsprint.

This exhorbitant price jump has met with a strong protest from the Saigon press which laid bare the motive behind the move. "Saigon Moi" (New Saigon) denounced it as an attempt to "kill the press", "Cap Tien" (Radical) scored it as an "indirect way to ban newspapers", "Trang Den" (Black and White) said it was putting the Vietnamese press (Saigon) to a slow death".

On February 26, 1970, the "Committee of Action" of the Saigon press took the decision to suspend publication for three days beginning March 2, and on February 27, six journalists shaved their heads at the "National Press Centre" in protest against this government decision.

This action of the Saigon pressmen has enlisted the support of all sections of the people. On February 24, the Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh TU Federation condemned the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique's manoeuvre as a move to "strangle the press" and to "impoverish pressmen". On February 23, the "Nationalities Commission" of the Saigon "Senate" held an emergency meeting in which it flayed the ruling clique for this price rise. The "Social Affairs" Commission of the "Lower House" also passed a resolution entirely supporting the pressmen's action.

The price rise of newsprint was first a predatory trick in the US quislings' overall policy of exploitation and repression aiming at impoverishing the journalists and newspaper readers in enemy-controlled areas. As the Patriotic Democratic Journalists' Association in South Viet Nam pointed out in a statement: "By raising

# STRONG PROTEST AGAINST THIEU'S DOUBLING NEWS-PRINT PRICE

the price of newsprint, the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique wants to squeeze out the last sou of the pockets of newsmen, news agents, printers, readers, and those who are concerned with the education of their children, in fact those whose life has already been made precarious by such drastic measures as tax increase, price rice and inflation."

This time, the decision was also aimed at stemming the movement of the population and of the opposition now vigorously mounting in Saigon, gagging the press and monopolizing the issuing of newspapers and periodicals. Its ultimate purpose was to shore up the tottering rotten rule of the Saigon quislings.

Like the closing down of a dozen newpapers last year, it threw additional light on the fascist dictatorial nature of the Saigon administration boasted as «national», «democratic», «constitutional» and «legal» and «respecting freedom of opinion», democracy and the people's right...

This 100 per cent price rise was another criminal deed of Thieu-Ky-Khiem who have been stubbornly continuing the war, and taking anti-popular measure to help US «Vietnamization».

Under the impact of the vigorous actions of the press sympathized with, and backed by, South Viet Nam urban peoples, the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique had to cancel the 100% newsprint price rise, on March 9th, 1970.

FEBRUARY 1970:

# Month of great successes of guerilla warfare

IN the flush of their January successes, in February, the South Viet Nam armed forces and people unremittingly hammered at the enemy on all battlefields: they dealt heavy blows at the puppet troops in division-sized operations in the Mekong delta, fought back their "pacification" raids on populated areas in Nam Bo and in the plains in Trung Bo, wiped out important units of GIs and puppet troops in Eastern Nam Bo, Central Trung Bo and other localities and intercepted the enemy along his trunk communication lines such as Highway No 19, Highway No 4...

**Caught in the net of the people's war,** the enemy sank more and more deeply into a defensive posture as he tried to wriggle out of his predicament despite all the precautions he had taken and the alarm he had given. In the first four days of February alone, the PLAF stormed nearly 200 enemy bases, positions and CPs and devastatingly hit at his safest sanctuaries in Saigon. Meanwhile, the armed self-defence squads assaulted a seven-storey building, killing more than a hundred of American officers.

These dramatic feats landed the enemy in a great quandary just before the arrival in Saigon of M. Laird, US Secretary of Defence, and other American brasshats, to create rather optimism and give a false picture of the "Vietnamization" plan and "accelerated pacification" program which are now faced with great difficulties.

The South Viet Nam armed forces and people successively **fought off all the enemy's "pacification" operations conducted in any form and size.**

In Mekong delta, the testing ground of "Vietnamization", the enemy deployed divisions of infantrymen, brigades of Marines and multi-battalion units of civil guards and puppet rangers strongly supported by the US Navy, US Air Forces and artillery, but were unable to turn the tide of the war: many units of the puppet 9th and 21st Divisions licked the dust, namely the 31st, 32nd and 14th Regiments, the 6th Battalion of civil guards, together with the marines and rangers. In the first half of February, in Western Nam Bo, the enemy was also badly mauled, each regiment losing from 400 to 600 men and the rangers and commandos over 250 men. In the meantime, in Central Nam Bo, on Feb. 11 alone, the guerillas and regional troops wiped out 4 companies of civil guards, a platoon of field policemen, a CP of the civil guards, and destroyed large quantities of war means.

In the plains of Trung Bo, the enemy took over 1,500 casualties in "pacification" pilot areas in the first fortnight of February; on February 17, in Thang Binh district, he was routed after losing over 250 men. *Many "strategic hamlets" were destroyed and hundreds of "security" and "civil guard" units disbanded.*

In February, puppet Rangers and para troops were unleashed against the Liberation fighters but together with the Ben Soi Commando Training Centre, were knocked out or decimated. On their part, the GIs of the First Air Cavalry Division, the First Infantry Division, the First and Third Brigades of the 25th Division were badly trounced by such PLAF devastating onsets as the one against the US mixed battalion in the Tod Ninh sub-sector in which over 100 GIs, 26 tanks and armoured carriers and a great quantity of military equipment were put out of action.

In the first three days of February, in Quang Ngai province, 25 enemy bases and positions including the special military sector, airfields, CPs of the puppet 4th and 6th regiments, were rushed. The enemy sustained the heaviest losses in the PLAF assaults against two battalion CPs, 3 companies and 2 platoons of US infantrymen and artillerymen, stationed at Ly Hy, southwest of Hue, in which 6 cannons, 4 tanks and 50 underground blockhouses and barracks were destroyed.

The regular shellings by regional troops inflicted great damage on the enemy troop digging in their fortifications. The PLAF poundings of the American bases on the night of February 26 were acknowledged by the US spokesman in Saigon as exacting the heaviest toll of American lives since December 2, 1969.

While the enemy was leaving no stone unturned to carry out his "Vietnamization" plan and "accelerated pacification" program, the achievements of the South Viet Nam armed forces and people at the beginning of 1970 aggravated his plight. Pressing their advantage, the Liberation armymen and people in the South are stepping up guerilla warfare and hitting hard at the enemy to frustate all his schemes and secure complete victory.

*Photo:*
**A Mekong delta guerilla unit ready to fight the enemy.**

# ROK camp stormed

IT was pitch dark. Even above the enemy position there was only a faint halo of light. The intermittent shrill chirping of crickets accompanied the snoring of the Pak Jung Hi mercenaries soundly asleep.

Suddenly all the lights in the camp went out. A red signal flare shot up into the sky.

One of the first to reach the troops quarters, Luong Cong Hung shot a grenade into the nearest house. The enemy sentry went up at him. As the enemy charged with his bayonet, Hung jumped aside onto a rock. In the same movement, he bent forward and took hold of the barrel of the sentry's gun and pulled at it with violence. The sentry lost balance and fell forward on his face. Hung finished him with a strike on the head, using the butt of the man's own rifle.

This done, Hung ran up a communication trench. Where the trench branched out, he discerned a gaping hole on his right. He decided that that must be the entrance into an underground bunker. So he tossed a grenade in. Thua, who was only a few steps behind Hung, also saw the opening. He fired a tank-taste shot into it.

The two simultaneous explosions were followed by many others from the other side of the opening. They had hit an ammo store.

Hung left the trench and ran into the centre of the camp. A burning house nearby enabled him to distinguish Lung grappling with two Pak Jung Hi troops. He arrived just in time to see Lung knock out one of his adversaries with a neat upper-cut. Hung got the other enemy with a sledge-hammer blow from behind.

Another trench appeared. Hung and Thua immediately waded in. A little further, the trench also branched off in two directions. Just as the three men were about to turn left, bullets hissed past their heads and lodged themselves in the wall with a dull thud.

The three PLAF fighters stepped back and hurled grenades at the enemy. In the flashes that followed the explosions, they could see helmets shoot up into the air.

Again Hung moved up. Suddenly the earth shook, Hung's right arm went limp, and he felt as if he were walking a tight rope.

Despite the searing pain, Hung could see more enemy coming from the right branch of the trench. He clenched his teeth and flung a grenade over his head. He could hear the Pak Jung Hi mernenaries shriek.

Having reppelled two counter-attacks, Hung stood up in the trench to survey the battleground. Unfortunately, a shell landed just a few feet from him. Hung fell down unconscious.

When he came to, the first thing he did was to ask his friends if he could still beat the enemy with his left hand only. Ever since he heard the enemy boast of the deadly Karate and Jiu-Jitsu of Pak Jung Hi troops he had trained day and night the Vietnamese boxing.

On the ground the fight raged on. As he was still too weak to go without help, Hung told Lung and Thua to move ahead.

There was another hand-to-hand fight during which the two other fighters knocked out an enemy. Then, from where he was sitting, Hung detected another Pak Jung Hi troop looming from behind the door of a half-buried bunker.

Gathering his strength, Hung shot forward and planted his dagger into the chest of the adversary. Hung cut down another enemy with a short burst of tommy gunfire. And after he had done away with 6 more enemy he dropped on the ground, completely exhausted.

The worst was still to come. While Thua was trying to lift Hung up, another enemy appeared. Thua took off his pistol and fired, but in vain.

Thua flung the useless weapon aside and fell on the enemy, and both of them rolled on the ground each trying to get on top of the other.

The noise aroused Hung from his stupor. He tried to get up on his feet but could not. So, inch by inch he crawled forward. When he reached the two wrestlers, he piked up the abandoned gun and knocked the head of the enemy whom his friend had managed to pin down on the ground.

That was the last of the 300 odd Pak Jung Hi mercenaries wiped out by the PLAF that night.

editorial

# The March Nineteenth Anti-US Spirit Continues to Shine with Increasing Brightness

SOUTH Viet Nam's anti-US resistance is two decades old. In early 1950, the Saigonese, representative of the feeling of the entire Vietnamese people took to the streets and defying the French colonialists' bayonets and bullets, shouted in the US interventionists faces, "US Imperialism, go home". Right at that time, coupling political actions and armed fight, they tore off the interventionist mask of US imperialism and made clear their unbending will to battle for national emancipation. Since then the March Nineteenth anti-US spirit has been shining with increasing brightness. Since then, in South Viet Nam has been unfolding an epic of unparalelled magnitude and diversity is our history which is our war of resistance against the most fiendish foe of humanity, US imperialism.

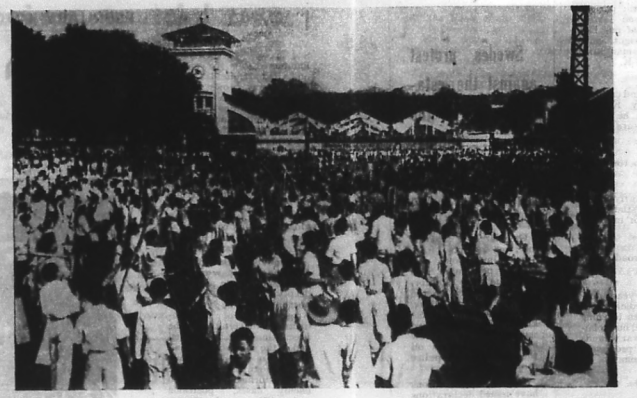
FOR twenty years, it has been continuously challenging our independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity. After aiding and abetting French colonialism in its aggression against our country, it has been directly intervening with the force of arms in South Viet Nam. After the signing of the Geneva Agreements in 1954, it launched its "special war", then its "local war" against the South Vietnamese people. On the North of our country, it unleashed a war of destruction with air and naval forces.

Side by side with the people of the rest of the country, the South Vietnamese have put up a stubborn and successful struggle which has been given a vigorous impulse by the formation of the National Front for Liberation. Guided by the Front's banner of unity and political programme, they defeated the US "special war" and have been inflicting setbacks on its "local war". In Spring 1968, after beating off successively two US counter-offensives, they and the Liberation Armed Forces mounted waves of widespread attacks and uprisings, which have tilted the balance of force in our favour and switched over our effort into a new stage. The South Vietnamese people and armed forces' combat posture, military and political strength have dramatically improved. The free areas have been expanding without let-up. The emergence of the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces further consolidated the bloc of national unity. All those political and military achievements have put on our resistance against US aggression, for national salvation, a new complexion, and opened up for it promising prospects and supplied it with greater facilities. Under their impact and that of the failure of the US war of destruction at the hands of the Northern people and army, which aggravated the aggressors' loss of the initiative, the latter had no unconditionally halt the bombing of North Viet Nam, agree to the quadripartite Paris Conference and begin pulling out contingents of their troops from South Viet Nam.

FOR a score of years, the South Vietnamese have been, together with the people of other parts of the land, raising patriotism and revolutionary heroism of March Nineteenth to a high degree, writing the most glorious chapters of our history and making a substantial contribution to the world peoples' drive for peace, independence, democracy and social progress. Today, it is safe to say that their own effort is progressing in the most steady and vigorous way ever. US aggression has basically failed. But Mr Nixon and his confederates have not given up their aggressive design. They are doing everything in their power to strengthen and beef up the puppet army and implement their "accelerated pacification" program, which is, in its essence, one of sweeps, terror raids, mass murders and encroachments on the liberated zone. On the one hand their "Vietnamization" plan spells out their failures in their aggression, on the other, it is nothing short of a trick to drag out the war, to maintain US neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam and to perpetuate the partition of Viet Nam. The real purpose of Mr Nixon's "token" troop cutbacks is not to put an end to the war but to alleviate US difficulties, cut down the war cost and combat toll, and hoodwink US and universal opinion. US desperate efforts to shore up the puppet army, its hanging on to the Thieu-Ky-Khiem triumvirate, its intensified aerial and chemical warfare, its accumulating atrocities against the South Vietnamese and its intractableness at the Paris talks betray its intention to secure an illusory position of strength on the battlefield and at the bargaining table from which to negotiate and impose preposterous terms on our side.

THE South Vietnamese have at heart nothing other than independence, democracy, peace, neutrality, prosperity and eventual national reunification. If the Nixon Administration persists in its present attitude, and continues to ignore the 10-point proposal of the Front and the South Viet Nam Republic PR Government and stick to the Thieu-Ky-Khiem trio of traitors and to its "Vietnamization" which is actually prolongation of the carnage in South Viet Nam, it will court fresh humiliating setbacks. As for the South Vietnamese, their course has been unswervingly set in the Front's Declaration on the 9th founding anniversary, "As long as the US pursues its aggression against our land, goes on riding roughshod over it and massacring our people, we shall keep up our fight until there is not a single foreign aggressor left on our soil, until South Viet Nam is liberated, peace is safe and our country reunified. We shall never deflect from this line."

SOUTH VIET NAM



*On the occasion of March 19*

# SAIGON bearer of the anti-US aggression standard

THE history of Viet Nam has recorded in golden letters, the exploits of Saigon, a city named after Ho Chi Minh, which have lent lustre to its fame in the resistance to the French colonialists a century ago and triggered of the resistance to US aggression twenty years back.

After the triumph of the 1945 August Revolution, the Saigonese enjoyed only twenty three days of democratic republican regime but also experienced 7,000 days of anti-US aggression turmoil since March 19, 1950 when amidst the people's mortars firing at two US cruisers "Stickell, Anderson" anchored at Saigon port, the Saigonese shouted: "US go home!" Since then continuing the glorious traditions of March 19, they have mounted devastating assaults on the US aggressors and their henchmen. The US warship "Card" was sunk one day after its arrival at Saigon. Since the Pentagon turned Saigon into a fortress, the armed forces and population of Saigon have been credited with new feats: two floors of the US Embassy were blasted, many US officers wounded or killed at the Kinh Do cinema, the US intelligence office in Hotel Caravelle destroyed... Washington has set up a series of so-called "national governments" with a facade of "democracy" and "constitutionality". But the Saigonese has repeatedly bared their true colours as traitors to the nation. Since the massive occupation of Saigon by US and satellite expeditionary forces, the 3,000,000 Saigonese, including shoeblacks pedicabdrivers, intellectuals, journalists, students, pupils, members of the national bourgeoisie, labouring masses have mounted multifarious actions against them. Hundreds of demonstrations, teach-ins and rallies have been held in the streets under the slogans of "Peace, Independence, Democracy, Improving the people's living standard." In the heart of Saigon, 10,000 people demonstrated on Jan. 25, 1969, 38,000 students of 11 faculties staged a protest meeting which "surpassed all the previous ones by its identity of mind and its sense of justice (Tia Sang, July 26, 1969) 70,000 workers from 118 factories downed tools, in the biggest strive since 1964...

In vain has the US-puppet administration has cracked down on any individual or organization advocating peace, independence, neutrality, forbidden all songs, plays, sermons or prayers alluding to peace, closed down any paper denouncing foreign aggression and national treason. The Saigonese have never flinched.

They has been a growing realization among them that the root cause of all difficulties in their life is US aggression and that a better life, democracy and peace are unthinkable without freedom and independence. It is the reason why they have risen against the enemy, allying then aspirations for peace and independence with their demands for a better standard of living and democracy. "Austerity taxes", a broad daylight act of robbery by the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique, has met with "stiff opposition from all strata of Saigon". "A wave of unanimous protest triggered by the recent austerity measure of the "government" brought about a crisis in South Viet Nam". (AFP, October 28, 1969): 30,000 dockers threatened to strike, the Students' General Association released a written protest, the Saigon "Senate" met far 4 hours while the "Lower House" sat up a whole night in protest... In a coordinated action with the political struggle, the armed forces and people of Saigon struck hard at the Americans and their henchmen. Our Tet 1968 offensives shook the "sanctuary" of the enemy and brought war into their last dens. Last year, Saigon was continually on the offensive in spite of the fierceness of the war of aggression. Shots were heard every day in the eight districts of the town. Enemy vehicles were attacked in Hong Bang, Cong Ly streets. American bodies lay among the ruins of houses blasted in Tran Hung Dao street. Washington's henchmen were crushed at Ben Da (7th district) and on Road No 5 from Saigon to Go Cong. Thus, the people's war flared up in the very heart of Saigon.

Encouraged by the publication of the NFL 10 points global solution, the formation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the founding of the Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh People's Revolutionary Committee, wrote: "A new conjuncture, favorable to us and unfavourable to the enemy, has unmistakably emerged. Each individual, each family, each social section must enhance the sense of self-reliance, be ready for any sacrifice... and embark upon the way of struggle for self-salvation."

Entrusted with the historic mission assigned by the Fatherland, the Saigonese are doing their best to uphold the tradition of indomitableness of the 19th of March. Side by side with the armed forces and people of South Viet Nam as a whole, they will launch fresh waves of generalized offensives and simultaneous uprisings, attacking the enemy in their dens to eventually win complete victory.

PHAN HUU

# *Letters from* OUR READERS

**DNB, LIBRARIAN, CHICAGO, USA:**

*I like them very much and see improvement all the time. I make speeches against the war and use items you print specially those concerning the common struggle of the Vietnamese and black Americans.*

**CHANDER DAVIS, PROFESSOR, TORONTO, CANADA:**

*The paper is well written and well producted. In general the most useful information is that concerning the liberated zones of South Viet Nam, which we cannot get from other sources.*

**RTB, PROFESSOR, MEMPHIS UNIVERSITY, USA:**

*As a professor of Political Sciences teaching International Relations and comparative Government, I have for the past year been receiving your publication at Memphis State University.*

*I would appreciate it greatly, if I could continue to receive material from you.*

**GN KHAYAL, JOURNALIST, KASHMIR, INDIA:**

*The material is set very nicely. The cultural and literary life of your people should also be publicised. I enjoy reading it.*

**PEKIN INFORMATION, CHINA:**

*We would like to receive your publication regularly in order to acquaint ourselves better with the heroic struggle of the South Vietnamese people against US aggression and for national salvation.*

**POLAT, TEACHER, RIVE DE GIERD, LOIRE, FRANCE:**

*Very good presentation, pleasing and very interesting to read. People's war, the war of the masses, is invincible. All the peoples in the world can and must learn from the experiences of the struggle of the Vietnamese people.*

**Mme HERMANS OOMS, HAPPEN, BELGIUM:**

*Your well presented paper gives a good information about the Vietnamese people.*

**BOURGON DIMINA JEAN, STUDENT, POINTE NOIRE, CONGO:**

*It is useful to me, chiefly when I want to know the number of puppet militarymen put out of action by the PLAF. It matters to you to have a good display of photos showing the people in struggle and the way they punish the hangmen.*

**HENRI PETERS, WOEZIK, NETHERLAND:**

*I would like to inform you that your magazine is very interesting and give a good and true information about the present situation in South Viet Nam.*

* Above: **20** *years ago, on behalf of our whole people, the Saigonese people cried to the interventionists' face:* "US go home!"

* *Now,* **20** *years later, the anti-US struggle for national salvation has developed to an unprecedented height and achieved many brilliant successes.*

# In Brief

SINCE the beginning of this year labour unrest in Saigon has been raging on.

ON February 19, over 5,000 Pacific workers laid down tools to protest their bosses scornful treatment of Vietnamese workers, to urge immediate replacement of arrogant American overseers and full wages for workers.

After four days of sit-down strike their bosses were compelled to make apologies for their haughtiness.

ON the morning of February 25, 1,000 Lambretta drivers on the Saigon-Gia Dinh run gathered to protest the US-puppets' ban on a great number of them. "3,000 families are in trouble owing to the administration's arrests of drivers and temporary and permanent withdrawals of licence", the trade-union secretariat denounced.

The meeting demanded freedom to exercise their trade, an end to all persecution and seizure of Lambrettas and the release of drivers under arrest.

PREVIOUSLY, hydro-electric workers had met in emergency at the site of the Saigon Confederation of Labour to start an action for an increase of 17 per cent of their basic wages, allowances for high living costs and implementation of the "mutual contract" put forth by the workers over a year ago.

ON the morning of February 23, hundreds of dockers at the Khanh Hoi sugar stores and the Van Don wharf launched a strike to urge that the management of the Viet Nam sugar Company let the workers do the handling of sugar from the stores to the lorries instead of giving the job to go-betweens. The strike pinned down scores of lorries of the puppet supply service for lack of dockers. At midday, the workers resumed their work after their claims had been met.

ON February 19, all the workers at the Thu Duc stores went on strike to protest against their bosses' refusal to comply with their demand for annual paid leave and a bonus worth a month's salary as already agreed upon.

# Two Attitudes

At the infirmary of a prisoners' camp in the liberated areas of Central Trung Bo, doctor N. decided, after a consultation with his colleagues and the camp's authorities: "We are going to do everything we can to save the limbs of these three US POWs, despite what they have done to our people."

The Americans in this camp were put under the care of K, a captured army doctor with a captain's rank in the First US Cavalry Division based at An Khe. Since the moment the three most seriously wounded prisoners among a badge of seven came, K. urged to quarantine them "to help them pull through". With regard to the two whose fractures in the arms and the legs already had festered and were full of maggots, he asked the Vietnamese surgeons to lend him surgical instruments for him to disarticulate the injured arms and legs and amputate them in order to "save their lives". As to the third, a 42-year old specialist named Ch. with 20 years of service in the Marines, who could not eat owing to a wound in his neck, he suggested to put him in the isolation ward and let him die, invoking the "dictate of a US doctor's conscience". Aware of the decision of the Vietnamese doctors, he politely but ironically said to doctor N., "Both you and I only think of our patients. But from my long standing experience, I think that even in my division infirmary and even in the Saigon hospitals equiped with up-to-date means there is nothing else one can do. Let's be practical."

"— Disarticulation is an easy operation which just needs half an hour", doctor N. interrupted. "However, the point is to save them from incapacity for the rest of their lives. They have suffered enough from your dirty war".

K. then induced the wounded to ask for their disarticulation "of their free will."

The camp management committee adamantly ordered the Vietnamese surgeons to stick to doctor N.'s decision.

Seven days later, the three wounded recovered. But K. did not admit himself beaten. On the 15th day the wounds just needed a few minor operations to enable the patients to move about confortably. Ch's injury was also mending.

Upon seeing the up-to-date surgical instruments of the camp, K. was surprised and offered his apologies. "I only thought of the patients, just like you", he still tried to justify himself. "Why then did you suggest to isolate Ch. and to let him die?" Dr. N. retorted.

The prisoners felt higher esteem for the liberation cadres and fighters, especially doctor N.

Some time later, a prisoner with a healing wound in the buttock near the backbone suddenly felt a pain in the waist and found it completely stiff. K. affirmed that he had Pott disease and suggested to quarantine him and tried to rouse the other prisoners against the Vietnamese doctors. However after careful examination, doctor N. decided that it was a cold abcess. Summoned to a drainage, the patient cried and asked to be "spared". After over 400 cubic centimeters of pus had been taken out, he was all right again "Thank you, doctor", the man said, "for having saved me from K."

The prisoners were happy and earnestly thanked doctor N. Only K. said nothing. Some days later, he asked doctor N., "why were you sure it was an abcess?"

— "Every Vietnamese doctor could diagnose it."

After a moment, he hesitantly inquired, "I supposed you studied in France, or in the USSR or in East Germany."

"I have never been abroad." N. answered.

He also asked how many years doctor N. had been reading medicine and what his speciality was. When learning that it was internal medicine, he exclaimed, "Why do you handle war wounds so expertly? Perhaps your professors are Russian, Chinese or German?"

"They all are Vietnamese."

"That is a bit above my understanding! Your land, your people are quite fascinating. This is the greatest wonder I experienced in this country. You defy all appearances. Under these thatch roofs, amidst the forest you have successfully dealt with many cases that even modern hospitals would be at a loss to cope with. And in these coolie's clothes, you are real seasoned and humane doctors."

He lit a cigarette and puffing at it mused, **"No wonder that the Vietnamese are trouncing us..."**

Many puppet officers also came near to doctor N. **"You have helped us see the truth and recover our national pride. Thank you very much,"** a major said with emotion.

## Swedes protest against the establishment of the Saigon puppets Information Bureau

On March 2, according to reports from Stockholm about 200 Swedes penetrated into the so-called "information bureau" of the Saigon puppets being inaugurated in Stockholm. They ransacked several rooms, threw nylon bags of ink on the walls despite police protection.

Mass organisations have issued declarations protesting against the setting up of this information bureau.

The declaration of the Swedish Socialist Democratic Youth Union stressed: "The Saigon information bureau is only the representative of the fascist puppets backed up by the US. The Swedish Socialist Democratic Youth demand that the swedish government, workers' organizations and mass organisations boycott this organ of the Saigon henchmen."

The Communist Youth Union of Sweden declared for his part: "The fact that the Swedish government has permitted the Saigon administration to establish an information bureau in Stockholm shows that it gives support to the US imperialists to intensify their aggression war in Viet Nam, and to sabotage the just cause of the Vietnamese people. This position runs counter to the felling of solidarity between the Swedish and Vietnamese peoples."

We demand that the Swedish government put an end to their relations with the Saigon puppets and expel their representative from Stockholm.

We demand that the government should recognize the PRG of the RSVN, the authentic representative of the Vietnamese people.

"We don't need information from the Saigon regime. Since long, Swedish opinion has realized that the Saigon militarists don't represent anyone in South Viet Nam. The setting up of this "information bureau" is an act of provocation against Swedish public opinion", the Swedish newspaper "Evening" wrote.

## MORE «HERO UNITS» AND «HEROES» OF PLAF NEWLY CONFERRED

**The Council of Ministers of the Republic of South Viet Nam has recognized** *12 more "Hero Units" and 9 more "Heroes" of the PLAF on the battlefronts of Tri-Thien-Hue, Highway* 9 **(northern Quang Tri),** *and the central part of Central Viet Nam.*

**On the occasion of the 9th anniversary of Unification Day of the South Viet Nam PLAF (Feb. 15), the PRG of the Republic of South Viet Nam had conferred** *the titles of "Hero Units" and "Heroes of the PLAF" on* 10 *units and* 18 *individuals.*

*I believe that the Johnson war in Viet Nam is a dirty, unjust war of aggression*
*(Michael Hugh Kjome, a POW)*
By **Huynh Phuong Dong**

# Unreserved Support for the Lao Patriotic Front's 5-Point Solution

*IN the flush of the Xieng Khoang and the Plain of Jars military successes, the Lao Patriotic Front made public on March 6 a five-point solution which is to serve as a basis for the settlement of the Lao question.*

*The declaration makes clear the LPF position: a peaceful settlement of the Lao issue must be based on the 1962 Geneva Agreement on Laos and the actual situation in this country. To put it concretely, the parties concerned, and more particularly the United States, should respect the sovereignty, independence, neutrality, unity and territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Laos as provided for by the above-said accord; the United States should end its intervention and aggression in Laos, stop its war escalation, completely cease its bombings of Lao territory, withdraw all American advisers and military personnel, all American weapons and other war means from Laos, no longer use Thailand military bases and mercenary troops for its aggression against Laos; no longer use Lao territory for intervention in, and aggression against, other countries.*

*With an eye to this crucial-point the LPF proposal lays down principles to guarantee a sound and reasonable settlement by the parties concerned, namely: a policy of peace and neutrality; respect for the throne and constitutions of a National Assembly and a national and democratic government of national union and Laotian unity.*

*A sine qua non condition for any meeting of the parties concerned is an end to US war escalation and bombing on the whole territory of Laos.*

*It is not the first time that the LPF has advanced a political solution for the Lao question. It has shown its sincere desire for a peaceful settlement in its twelve-point Political Program just as in the maintenance of a delegation in Vientiane. And although the LPF and its armed forces have scored a victory of strategic significance, it once again takes the initiative for peace with this new offer.*

*The five-point solution reflects the strong and will to victory of the patriotic forces on the battlefield, and at the same time gives voice to the legitimate aspirations of the Lao people. Providing in its essence a guarantee for the realisation of the latter's fundamental national rights, it constitutes a sound, logic and reasonable basis for the settlement of the Lao problem. Coming forward with such a solution at the present juncture, the LPF once again opportunely and clearly shows its goodwill, its readiness to terminate once for all the US cruel and protracted war of aggression which has inflicted untold sufferings and mourning on the Lao people.*

*The proposal does not only meet the earnest aspirations of the Lao people — a peaceful, independent, neutral, democratic, unified and prosperous Laos — but also the interests of the peoples fighting for the safeguard of peace and security in Indochina, South-east Asia and the world. For this reason precisely, it has been warmly welcomed and supported by international opinion soon after it was announced.*

*Who is still unaware of the fact that the Americans have deployed several 50 battalions of Lao puppet and Thailand mercenary troops in Operation 'Kukiet' (Honour-Saving) in a bid to occupy Xieng Khoang and the Plain of Jars? Daily air sorties over the entire territory of Laos, including B-52's, sometimes amounted to 500. While trying to conceal the reality that they are engaged in aggression and bogged down in this country with the presence of over a thousand US Green Berets, with the building of headquarters at Long Cheng and Sam Thong by CIA men to entertain Vang Pao and his band employed as a trumpcard for the seizure of the whole of Laos, the American imperialists, making white black, allege that the DRVN has sent troops to Laos.*

*The actual situation in this country in recent weeks has thrown light on the wicked and machiavellian scheme of the Americans and their Vientiane agents. Foiling it in a vigorous fashion, the LPF and its armed forces have delivered them a telling blow in a short time, recapturing a large area embracing Xieng Khoang and the Plain of Jars, wiping out some 6,000 enemy troops, hotly pursuing remnant forces and launching sweeping and widespread actions with the iron determination to liberate the country's entire territory.*

*As pointed out by a Communique of the LPF command, the people and patriotic armed forces of Xieng Khoang and the whole country increasing their vigilance and keeping in mind the crimes perpetrated by the US imperialists and their henchmen, are resolved to rush ahead to wipe out more enemy forces and defeat the US special war.*

*As a neighbour and a long-standing comrades-in-arms of the Lao people within the front of the Indochinese peoples against American aggression, the people of South Vietnam have never ceased supporting resolutely and strongly the Lao national-salvation struggle and always rejoice at their successes. By pushing up their own resistance against the common enemy, the South Vietnamese give the Lao people the staunchest and most effective backing and, together with their fellow-countrymen in the North, fully agree to the LPF position as expressed in the March 6 five-point solution.*

*We demand that the United States Government and other parties concerned seriously respond to the offer of the LPF, i.e end US intervention and aggression in Laos, terminate US war escalation, withdraw from Laos all US advisers, military personnel, weapons and other war means so as to let the Lao people settle themselves their own affairs.*

# THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S 'SPRING OFFENSIVE': A FIERY ANTI-WAR MOVEMENT

THE "Spring Offensive" of the American people against the cruellest and longest war of aggression now carried on by the Nixon administration has been off to a promising start.

As pointed out by Mrs Norma Becker, one of the best known leaders of the anti-war movement, the 'Spring Offensive' of the New Yorkers is an integral part of the new coast-to-coast campaign for an end to the aggressive war in Viet Nam.

This war, while earning billions of dollars for the cannon magnates, has inflicted untold sufferings on the Vietnamese people and aggravated the economic, social and political crisis in the US.

Millions of American progressives have come to the clear realization that, with its aggressive policy, the Nixon administration has made still more serious housing shortage and cut back appropriations for medicare, education and social welfare.

At the same time it has stepped up persecution against war dissenters and all those who militate for a better living standard and democratic freedoms in the United States regarded as the most affluent country of the 'free world'.

How, in effect, could Americans refrain from displaying their dissatisfaction, their indignation, once perfectly aware that their sons continue to be sent to kill innocent people and to die a senseless death in a far-off land by Nixon's 'Vietnamization' which is no more and no less prolongation of the war.

Attached to their traditions of justice, freedom and democracy, the American people cannot tolerate that their government thwart their aspirations to peace and arrest, detain and manhandle the Chicago heroes.

All that explains why, following the dramatic Moratorium Days, the spring 'Peace Offensive' has begun sweeping the breadth and length of the United States in defiance of the administration's prohibitive and repressive measures. Thousands of univerity students have gone into action, violently clashing with the police, at Santa Barbara (California), Buffalo and Syracuse (New York), South Harly (Massachusett), Oxford (Mississipi) etc. They demanded that Nixon terminate US aggression in Viet Nam, dismiss reserve officer training corps in universities, release the 'Chicago Seven' and take necessary steps to improve their study conditions, reduce study fees, and enforce democratic freedoms. In the same spring drive, parallel to the ending of the Viet Nam war, the Americans will strive for better living conditions and democratic rights. Didn't Nixon admit on this score in his last January 20 message that decrepitude and violence in American cities constituted the most glaring failure in US life?

Once again the USA is in the turmoil of a large-scale political offensive, rich in significance and diversified in form. All middle schools and colleges in New York will take part. So will Red Indians, Americans of Porto-Rican and other descents, and workers. The White House and the Pentagon, in each wave of the offensive, will have to cope with countless demonstrations and torch-carrying marches for an immediate, total and unconditional pull-out from South Viet Nam, for an end to US crimes and to the support given to the Thieu-Ky junta.

The 'Spring Offensive' of the American people this year will coincide with the 20th anniversary of the Vietnamese people's struggle against US intervention (March 10), and the second anniversary of the Son My massacre (March 16). The world peoples' activities in March within the framework of the 'Month of solidarity with the Vietnamese People' will also contribute to the success of the 'Spring Offensive.'

In their fight for independence and freedom, the South Vietnamese people deeply sympathize with, and highly rate, the tireless efforts of the American people for peace, a better life and democracy, efforts that they regard as a valuable contribution to their own, and for which they sincerely thank them. With such well-coordinated actions, we are firmly confident that the success of the 'Spring Offensive' is a certainty.

*HA DUY*

**The American people's "Spring Offensive" has begun.**

# THE AGGRESSOR CAUGHT IN A WORLD WIDE NET

DESPITE its 'peace', 'co-operation', 'defence of freedom' and 'economic aid' varnish, never were the true colours of US imperialism as an aggressor as transparent as today. Wherever it goes it meets with anti-American protest.

Constantly gaining in momentum and magnitude and drawing in ever larger popular segments and political circles, this movement, which has been spreading all over the world, has been winning greater successes with each passing day. This momentous growth has been seen not only in the socialist and newly-independent countries, in Western and Northern Europe, but also in many countries under the sway or within the influence sphere of the US such as Thailand, the Philippines, Australia, New Zealand and Turkey. It has been assuming tremendous proportions in the US itself.

Today the political life of the world peoples is tinged with anti-americanism, the main substance of which is resistance to US neo-colonialist exploitation and domination and opposition to the US aggressive war in South Viet Nam. These are also two closely related aspects of the world peoples' activities in support of the South Vietnamese people's fight against american aggression.

The movement is widespread and particularly strong in the socialist countries with solidarity weeks and months in the USSR, 'Aid Viet Nam, Counter US' drives in the People's Republic of China, the 'to-ro Campaign' in Cuba, laborer units and schools named after Vietnamese heroes in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, blood donation in the German Democratic Republic, 'A school and a hospital for Viet Nam' in Hungary etc.,.

Fighting side by side with us, the Lao people and patriotic armed forces have dealt staggering blows at the american aggressor. Their electrifying victory at Xieng Khoang and in the Plain of Jars in February supplied an indication of the splendid coordination with, and constituted an effective contribution to, our liberation struggle. The series of successes achieved by the two peoples put the 'Nixon doctrine' regarding Asia to a bitter test, shortly after it had been formulated in the US president's State of the Union Message of February 18.

The anti-american tide keeps mounting in Asia and the Pacific area where, however, there are numerous US satellites and where an unusual ballyhoo is being raised, to sell the so-called 'Guam doctrine'. Indignant outcries were uttered by angry crowds at Nixon when he was touring six countries of the region in July 1969: US imperialism go home! Toward the end of the year his lieutenant Agnew was greeted the same way during his visit to thirteen countries. In Australia as in New Zealand, in Malaysia as in Indonesia, Afganistan and Thailand, and more particularly in the Philippines, people displayed such slogans as: "Agnew crocodile", 'US get out of the Philippines', 'End aggression in Viet Nam.' Also in the Philippines, the movement reached a new high with the demonstration early this year of over fifty thousand workers, peasants, students and teachers in the Miranda Square. There, chanting 'Down with US imperialism', they urged abolition of american bases and pull-out of american advisers.

The anti-US sentiment has also been rising in Africa and the Middle East where the Americans possess fat interests, especially in oil. It was given voice in an unmistakable way when US Secretary of State Rogers visited ten countries of the area last February. The peoples and many political circles here strongly condemned Washington's support for aggressive Israel. The call of the five Arab countries' conference (UAR, Syria, Jordan, Sudan and Irak) for the liquidation of US oil interests in the Middle East, the decision of Lybia to dismantle american air bases and the expulsion by Somalia of a US 'peace corps' came as many slaps in the face of the Yankee neo-colonialists.

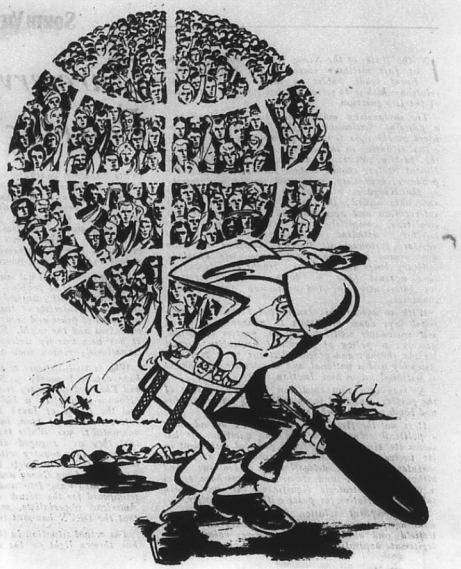
Meanwhile, in Western and Northern Europe, anti-americanism has taken on vivid forms. People in France, Italy, Britain, Belgium, West Germany and West Berlin,.. staged a parade when the US president first came there after his inauguration, chanting: 'US imperialism go home!, 'Nixon assassin!' Big demonstrations and meetings lined up during 'Solidarity with Viet Nam weeks' and on other occasions in Sweden, Finland, Norway, and Denmark. This high-tide erupted again recently when the Son My and Ba Lang An mass murders came to light. The French Scientists' Conference condemned the use by the United States of chemical agents in South Viet Nam; the National Council of the French Peace Movement decided to organize a mass rally against US aggression in South Viet Nam on next May 10 and the London Co-operatives' Association held a 'Viet Nam Week' (March 1—8), while the West German Free distributed leaflets flaying US crimes in Viet Nam, students demonstrated in Naples and youths in Finland, and a large gathering is due to take place under the sponsorship of the West German Solidarity with Viet Nam Organization on the second anniversary of the Son My mass murder (March 16), etc.

Latin America, considered by the Yankee imperialists as their sanctuary, has also been in the throes of vigorous anti-US actions. Among other meaningful events, Ecuadorian students staged a march in Quito against North-American cartels which had taken hold of their country's oil resources. Dominican students set fire to the Shell office in Santo Domingo, and the Bolivian government expelled US spies disguised as diplomats.

In the United States itself, an anti-war campaign for the withdrawal of troops from South Viet Nam with dimensions unknown thus far in American history, has been sweeping the country. The people are making hectic preparations for the forthcoming 'Spring Offensive'.

Thus, a world-wide movement is aggravating United States isolation. Casting US imperialism in an inextricable net, it is an effective contribution, a valuable prop and a strong stimulus for the people of South Viet Nam in their striving for total victory over the aggressor.

*DAI LIEN*

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Dessin de V. TCHERNIKOV

# Anti-US demonstrations break out in the Philippines

**Smouldering for many years, anti-US feeling is flaring up in the Philippines.**

**According to dispatches from Manila, from February 12 to 26, tens of thousands of Filipino students staged violent demonstrations in front of the US Embassy, fought back policemen with st nes and fire-bombs, smashed windows of the mission. Then at the beginning of March, 5,000 students mounted a big parade against the Americans and the fascist ruling clique Marcos with such fiery slogans as: 'Down with US imperialism', 'Down with the fascist Marcos administration.' They angrily shook their fists at Marcos' portrait wrapped in a US flag. In sympathy with the students, 5,000 drivers went on strike, paralysing the transport and forcing the schools to close down. Hundreds of thousands of people in Manila warmly sympathized with the protestors.**

**The demonstrations remind one of last year's reception of Nixon then of Agnew with tomatoes, rotten eggs, shaking fists and shouts: 'Crafty Dick (Nixon) go away'! 'Agnew go away!' 'Agnew crocodile!' 'We don't want you here'! This outburst of anti-US sentiment reflected the inevitable fiasco of the American imperialists design to use the Marcos clique to turn the Philippines into a US military base and neo-colony, and to curb the national liberation movement in this country and in South East Asia. It was also a hammer blow at the Marcos ruling clique, a prop of US neo-colonialism, who had been carrying out a traitorous policy by toeing the American imperialists' line in their aggression of Viet Nam, and disturbing the economic, political and social life in the Philippines plagued by unemployment, soaring living costs, 60% of landless peasants...**

**Anti-US-Marcos demonstrations have been breaking out not only in Manila but also in the provinces, involving not only workers and students but also the people at large, despite all the manoeuvres of the Marcos clique and its American bosses to repress and placate them.**

**This supplies a clear indication of a new development of the Filipino people's struggle for an independent, democratic and free Philippines. Together with the recent success of the Lao people, this movement has contributed to the Asian people's drive against US aggression, for peace.**

**The South Vietnamese people warmly hail the valiant fighting of the Filipino students and workers against the American imperialists and regard it as a source of inspiration for the Filipino people's resistance against US aggression. In return, with smarting blows at US imperialism in South Viet Nam, they show their sympathy with, and unreserved support for the just and certainly victorious struggle of the Filipino people.**

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